



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No. 3694

Roberts et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Serial No. 09/508,923

Examiner: T. Vanoy

Filed: June 19, 2000

Title: METAL COMPOUNDS, MIXED OR SULPHATED, AS PHOSPHATE BINDERS

February 14, 2003

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 16, 2002, please amend the above identified application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 16-18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Twice amended) A solid mixed metal compound, having phosphate binding capacity, and useful as a medicament, comprising the compound obtained as a precipitate from a solution of a mixture of metallic salts, free from aluminum, and containing (i) hydroxyl and/or carbonate ions; (ii) sulphate, chloride, oxide, or mixtures thereof; (iii) iron (III) and (iv) at least one additional metal selected from the group consisting of magnesium, calcium, lanthanum and cerium, said compound having a phosphate binding capacity of at least 30%, as measured by any of the following test methods (1), (2) or (3), over a pH range of from 3 to 7;

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